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ABSTRACT

This video features the Head Start program director and the school district special education administrator describing and commenting on aspects of the successful collaboration between the Manhattan-Ogden (Kansas) school district and the local Head Start program to gradually include disabled children in the regular Head Start classrooms. The director and administrator first note problems, in the form of potential "turf battles" that they overcame through collaboration. They then explore several issues that arose during the inclusion process, all of which required a shift in focus to address effectively. These issues included the following: (1) an inter-agency agreement; (2) demographics; (3) food service; (4) medication; (5) transportation; (6) scheduling; (7) social attitudes; (8) transition to kindergarten; and (9) staffing. The video concludes with comments about the benefits of the program for children, parents and teachers. A discussion guide accompanying the video describes the objectives of the video, provides several discussion activity options related to inclusion, and includes a sample interagency agreement for collaborative preschool services. (HTH)

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